

Stammering or stuttering affects up to 8% of children. In many children this will be short live. Stammering isn't caused by nerves. It is mainly a neurological and often hereditary condition.

Stammering is when your child

- Repeats parts of words or sounds e.g. 'mu mu mummy'
- Stretches sounds e.g. 'sssstory'
- Gets stuck on a sound or blocked
- Puts in extra effort when talking, you may notice tension in your child's face
- Uses body movement to get a word out e.g. stamping their foot
- Loses eye contact
- Tries to hide their stammer, by changing words, saying they have forgotten or remaining quiet



SWINDON
BOROUGH COUNCIL

STAMMERING SUPPORT

Specialist Stammering Service

Speech and Language Therapy

Pearl Rd

Swindon

SN5 5TD

Tel: 01793 466790

Access referral information on our website

Further information can be found at

www.stamma.org

TIPS

When talking with a child who stammers, you can help by;

- Talking more slowly, you set the pace without having to say slow down.
- Pause before responding to your child
- Give them your full attention
- Ask one question at a time, give them time to answer
- Use short, simple sentences
- Keep natural eye contact
- Listen to what your child is saying, rather than how they say it
- Make sure everyone gets a turn in conversation
- Acknowledge speech difficulties, offer your child reassurance and encouragement